

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Bonutti, Peter M. Confirmation No. 1472  
Application No.: 10/755,996 Attorney Docket No: 780-A03-021-5  
Filed: 01/13/2004 Group Art Unit: 3733  
For: Joint Spacer Examiner: Hoffman, Mary C.

**RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Mail Stop AF AMENDMENT  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Examiner Hoffman:

In reply to the Office Action mailed September 10, 2007, Applicant hereby submits the following amendments and remarks and requests for reconsideration. In accordance with USPTO practice, each section of this Response begins on a separate sheet. Applicant submits these amendments and remarks serve to clarify the present invention and are independent of patentability.